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Government retreats on lie-detector plans

Washington (AP) — The Reagan administration has scaled down its plans to use lie detectors in national security investigations and now only wants to use the polygraphs "to protect highly sensitive classified intelligence," a senior Pentagon official told Congress yesterday.

"The sole purpose is to provide greater security assurance that our most sensitive programs are not penetrated by hostile intelligence

agents, said retired Gen. Richard Stillwell, deputy undersecretary of defense for policy.

The new standards mean that no more than 40,000 of the 4 million people with access to classified information would be tested in any year, he told the Senate Armed Services Committee.

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